Numb. 140

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

——— *Aliena Negotia centum*
Per Caput & circumſaliunt latus. Hor.

From *Tueſday February* 28. to *Thurſday March* 2. 1709.

Sheer-Lane, March 1.

HAVING the Honour to be by my Great Grandmother a *Welſhman*, I have been among ſome choice Spirits of that Part of *Great Britain*, where we ſolaced our ſelves in Celebration of the Day of St. *David*. I am, I confeſs, elevated above that State of Mind which is proper for Lucubration: But I am the leſs concerned at this, becauſe I have for this Day or Two laſt paſt obſerved, that we Novelliſts have been condemned wholly to the Paſtry-Cooks, the Eyes of the Nation being turned upon greater Matters. This therefore being a Time when none but my immediate Correſpondents will read me, I ſhall ſpeak to them chiefly at this preſent Writing. It is the Fate of us who pretend to joke, to be frequently underſtood to be only upon the Drole, when we are ſpeaking the moſt ſeriouſly, as appears by the following Letter to *Charles Lillie*.

Mr. *Lillie*, *London, Feb.* 28. 17$\frac{0}{8}$.

'IT being profeſſed by Eſquire *Bickerſtaff*, that his Intention is to expoſe the Vices and Follies of the Age, and to promote Virtue and good Will amongſt Mankind; it muſt be a Comfort to a Perſon labouring under great Straits and Difficulties, to read any Thing that has the Appearance of Succour: I ſhould be glad to know therefore, whether the Intelligence given in his *Tatler* of *Saturday* laſt of the intended Charity of a certain Citizen of *London* to maintain the Education of Ten Boys in Writing and Accompts till they be fit for Trade, be given only to encourage and recommend Perſons to the Practice of ſuch noble and charitable Deſigns, or whether there be a Perſon who really intends to do ſo. If the latter, I humbly beg Eſquire *Bickerſtaff*'s Pardon for making a Doubt, and impute it to my Ignorance, and moſt humbly crave, that he would be pleaſed to give Notice in his *Tatler* when he thinks fit, whether his Nomination of Ten Boys be diſpoſed of, or whether there be Room for Two Boys to be recommended to him, and that he will permit the Writer of this to preſent him with Two Boys, who, it is humbly preſumed, will be judged to be very remarkable Objects of ſuch Charity.

SIR,

Your moſt humble Servant.

I am to tell this Gentleman in ſober Sadneſs, and without Jeſt, That there really is ſo good and charitable a Man as the Benefactor enquired for in his Letter, and that there are but Two Boys yet named. The Father of one of them was kill'd at *Bleinheim*, the Father of the other at *Almanza*. I do not here give the Names of the Children, becauſe I ſhould take it to be an Inſolence in me to publiſh them, in a Charity which I have only the Direction of as a Servant to that worthy and generous Spirit who beſtows upon them this Bounty, without laying the Bondage of an Obligation. What I have to do, is to tell them, they are beholden only to their Maker, to kill in them, as they grow up, the falſe Shame of Poverty, and let them know, that their preſent Fortune, which is come upon them, by the Loſs of their poor Fathers on ſo glorious Occaſions, is much more honourable than the Inheritance of the moſt ample ill-gotten Wealth.

The next Letter which lies before me, is from a Man of Senſe, who ſtrengthens his own Authority with that of *Tully*, in perſwading me to what he very juſtly believes one cannot be averſe.

Mr. *Bickerſtaff*, *London, Feb.* 27. 1709.

'I Am ſo confident of your Inclination to promote any Thing that is for the Advancement of liberal Arts, that I lay before you the following Tranſlation of a Paragraph in *Cicero*'s Oration in Defence of *Archias* the Poet, as an Incentive to the agreeable and inſtructive Reading of the Writings of the *Auguſtan* Age. Moſt Vices and Follies proceed from a Man's Incapacity of entertaining himſelf; and we are generally Fools in Company, becauſe we dare not be wiſe alone. I hope, on ſome future Occaſions you will find this no barren Hint. *Tully*, after having ſaid very handſom Things of his Client, commends the Arts of which he was Maſter, as follows:

'*If ſo much Profit be not reaped in the Study of Letters, and if Pleaſure only be ſought, yet, in my Opinion, this Relaxation of the Mind ſhould be eſteemed moſt human and ingenuous: Other Things are not for all Ages, Places, and Seaſons. Theſe Studies form Youth, delight old Age, adorn Proſperity, and ſoften, and even remove, Adverſity; entertain at Home, are no Hindrance Abroad, don't leave us at Night, and keep us Company on the Road, and in the Country. I am,*

Your humble Servant,
STREPHON.

The following Epiſtle ſeems to want the quickeſt Diſpatch, becauſe a Lady is every Moment offended till it is anſwered, which is beſt done, by letting the Offender ſee in her own Letter how tender ſhe is of calling him ſo.

SIR,

'THis comes from a Relation of yours, tho' unknown to you, who beſides the Tie of Conſanguinity, has ſome Value for you on the Account of your Lucubrations; thoſe being deſigned to refine our Converſation, as well as cultivate our Minds. I humbly beg the Favour of you, in one of your *Tatlers*, (after what Manner you pleaſe) to correct a particular Friend of mine for an Indecorum he is guilty of in Diſcourſe, of calling his Acquaintance when he ſpeaks of them, Madam; as for Example, My Couſin *Jenny Diſtaff*, Madam *Diſtaff*; which I am ſure you are ſenſible is very unpolite; and tis what makes me often uneaſy for him, though I cannot tell him of it my ſelf,

'self, which makes me guilty of this Presumption, 'that I depend upon your Goodness to excuse; 'and I do assure you, the Gentleman will mind 'your Reprehension, for he is, as I am,

SIR,

Your most humble

Servant and Cousin,

Dorothy Drumstick.

'I write this in a thin Under-Petticoat, and never did or will wear a Fardingal.

I had no sooner read the just Complaint of Mrs. *Drumstick*, but I received an urgent one from another of the Fair Sex upon Faults of more pernicious Consequence.

Mr. *Bickerstaff*,

'OBserving that you are entered into a Correspondence with *Pasquin*, who is, I suppose, a *Roman-Catholick*, I beg of you to forbear giving him any Account of our Religion or Manners, till you have rooted out certain Misbehaviours even in our Churches. Among others, that of bowing, saluting, taking Snuff, and other Gestures. Lady *Autumn* made me a very low Courtesy the other Day from the next Pew, and, with the most Courtly Air imaginable, call'd her self, *Miserable Sinner*. Her Neece soon after, in saying, *Forgive us our Trespasses*, courtesy'd with a gloting Look at my Brother. He returned it, opening his Snuff-box, and repeating yet a more solemn Expression. I beg of you, good Mr. Censor, not to tell *Pasquin* any Thing of this Kind, and to believe this does not come from one of a morose Temper, mean Birth, rigid Education, narrow Fortune, or Bigotry in Opinion, or from one in whom Time had worn out all Taste of Pleasure. I assure you it is far otherwise; for I am possess'd of all the contrary Advantages, and hope, Wealth, good Humour, and good Breeding, may be best employed in the Service of Religion and Virtue; and desire you would, as soon as possible, remark upon the above-mentioned Indecorums, that we may not longer transgress against the latter, to preserve our Reputation in the former.

Your humble Servant,

LIDIA.

The last Letter I shall insert, is what follows. This is written by a very inquisitive Lady, and I think, such Interrogative Gentlewomen are to be answered no other Way than by Interrogation. Her Billet is this:

Dear Mr. *Bickerstaff*,

'Are you quite as good as you seem to be?

Chloe.

To which I can only answer,

Dear *Chloe*,

'Are you quite as ignorant as you seem to be?

I. B.

Errata, *In our last*, Col. 2. Line 16. *for* you, *read* he.

ADVERTISEMENT.

At the Request of all the Ladies of Quality, who are at present engaged in Politicks, the Benefit Night for Cavalier Nicolini *is put off to* Tuesday *the 7th Instant.*

Advertisements.

** PROPOSALS for Printing the LUCUBRATIONS of Isaac Bickerstaff Esq; by Subscriptions, in Two Volumes in Octavo, on a Large Character, and Fine Royal Paper, are to be seen, and Subscriptions taken, at Charles Lillie's, a Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford Buildings in the Strand, and John Morphew's near Stationers-Hall. All Persons that design to subscribe to this Work, are desired to send their Subscriptions with all Expedition, the Book being put to Press, in order to have it published before Easter.

MEn's Morning-Gowns, of rich Silks, Stuffs, Callicoes, &c. (being the Goods of a Person that failed) to be disposed of at very low Rates; may be seen at the Olive-Tree and Still within three Doors of Young Man's Coffee-house, against the Horse at Charing-Cross. The Prices being set on each Gown. Catalogues of the Particulars may be had at the Place of Sale.

ON Wednesday next, the 8th Instant, in the Great Room in York-Buildings, will be performed a Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, by the best Performers, for the Benefit of Mrs. A. Bradshaw. Tickets are to be had at Charles Lillie's, Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings in the Strand, and at Tom's Coffee-house in Covent-Garden, at 5 s. per Ticket. N. B. It being Lent, there will be no Play that Night.

William West, Mercer, lately Partner with George Noble and William Olwin, at the Peacock in the New-Exchange, is removed to the Black-Moor's Head in that Exchange, in the same Walk, and Partner with Robert Sutton.

** To morrow will be published, Copies and Extracts of some Letters, written to and from the Earl of Danby (now Duke of Leeds) in the Years 1676, 1677, and 1678. With particular Remarks on some of them. Publish'd by his Grace's Direction. Printed for J. Nicholson at the Queen's Arms in Little-Britain, and sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

** Sir Cyrill Wich's Library continues to be sold every Evening at Exeter-Exchange in the Strand, beginning at 5 of the Clock exactly. Catalogues are sold at 6 d. each by E. Curll against St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet-street, and R. Smith at his Warehouse, the Place of Sale. Beginning to Night in the Middle of the 23d Page, with several valuable Italian and French Books with Dacier's Notes, and the Civil and Canon Law will come on.

** On Saturday will be published, Astronomia Carolina; or, A new Theory of the Cœlestial Motions; compos'd according to the best Observations, and most rational Grounds of Art, yet far more easy, expedite, and perspicuous, than any before extant; with exact and most easy Tables thereunto, and Precepts for the Calculation of Eclipses, &c. By Mr. T. Street. With his Memorial Verses on the Ecclesiastical and Civil Calendar. The Second Edition, with Additions. The whole carefully corrected. To which is added, an Appendix, containing a Collection of Observations on the Moon and Planets, and a Proposal how to find out the Longitude at Sea, by the Help of these Observations. Printed for R. Smith, and S. Briscoe; and sold by J. Woodward in St. Christopher's Church-yard near the Royal-exchange, and J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Price

WHereas Mr. John Bridge, who sold Coffee, Tea and Chocolate, at his Warehouse in Pope's Head Alley over-against the Royal Exchange in Cornhil, being lately deceased: This is to give Notice, That Mr. Edward Allen, who was his Kinsman, and Apprentice, and kept the Coffee-house over the said Warehouse, succeeds Mr. Bridge in his Business; where all Gentlemen and Ladies may be furnished with the best Coffee, Tea, Chocolate, &c. by Wholesale or Retail, as before.

Several Pieces of fineplain Muslin, at 5 s. 6 d. a Yard. Also right China Ink, for Writing, Drawing, Shading, &c. at 2 d. a Stick. To be sold at the Milliner's at Storey's Gate, into St. James's Park.

AN House on the West Side of Kensington Square, two Rooms upon a Floor, and four Stories high, with large light Closets, Vaults, and all other Conveniencies, fit to be let. Inquire as directed by the Bill upon the Door.

THese are to acquaint the Lovers of Art, That there is an extraordinary Collection of Italian Drawings and Prints of the most eminent Painters and Gravers to be sold by Auction, the lowest Price being fix'd on the Back-side of each; so that Gentlemen will at Sight be informed of the Value. Note, that if any Person has either fine Drawings, Prints, Pictures, or other Rarities, they may be disposed of in the same Manner, paying Poundage for such as are sold. There is constant Attendance from 10 of the Clock in the Morning to 5 in the Afternoon, at the House on the Right Hand going up to the House of Lords in the Old Palace-yard, Westminster.

A Perfect Cure for the Green Sickness, from Years old, and upwards; being Pills both very safe and pleasant, which neither purge nor have any Inconvenience attending them; which have done wonderful Cures in that Distemper; but has been kept secret above 30 Years, only to Relations and particular Acquaintance: But thro' the importunity of those who have experienced the Excellency of them, is now made publick for general Good. Price of each Box 2 s. 6 d. with Directions. Sold only at Mrs. Dunn's, a Midwife, over against the Three-Tuns Tavern in Lad-Lane, in Wood-Street, and at the Maker's over-against the White House in Bromfield Street, in Drury-Lane.

☞ An Incomparable Beautifying Cream for the Face, Neck and Hands, takes away all Freckles, Spots, Pimples, Wrinkles, Roughness, Scurf, Morphew, Yellowness, Sun-burning, renders the Skin admirably Clear, Fair, and Beautiful, has an excellent pretty Scent; is very safe and harmless, and vastly transcends all other Things; for it truly nourishes the Skin, making it instantly look Plump, Fresh, Smooth, and Delicately Fair, though before Wrinkled and Discolour'd. Sold only at Mr. Lawrence's Toyshop at the Griffin the Corner of the Entry near Cheapside, at 2 s. 6 d. a Gally-pot with Directions.

RIght superfine Brazil Snuff, with the best Colour and Flavour, is to be sold at the Perfumer's Shop, at the Golden Head over-against the Playhouse in the Haymarket, as follows: To those who buy a Pound shall have it for 33 s. and but half a Pound or a Quarter, after the Rate of 36 s. per Pound, which is but 2 s. and 3 d. per Ounce.

In the last Tatler, in the Advertisement of a new Set of Maps of two Sheets of Imperial Paper, Line 3. Instead of Hours taken down; read Stars laid down.